

March 15, 2005

TO: Members of the MAG Regional Council

FROM: Mayor Keno Hawker, Mesa, Chair

SUBJECT: MEETING AND RETREAT NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Meeting - 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 23, 2005
MAG Office, Suite 200 - Saguaro Room
302 North 1st Avenue, Phoenix

Dinner - 6:30 p.m.
MAG Office, Suite 200

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING BEGINS AT 4:00 P.M. THE REGIONAL COUNCIL RETREAT WILL BEGIN IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING ADJOURNMENT OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING.

The next business meeting of the MAG Regional Council will be held in conjunction with the Annual Retreat at the MAG offices at the time and place noted above. It is anticipated that the retreat will begin at approximately 4:30 p.m., immediately following the business meeting. The focus of the retreat will include discussion of the impacts of growth on our region, transportation roles and responsibilities, and human services. The retreat agenda will be sent in a separate mailing.

Members of the Regional Council may attend either in person, by videoconference or by telephone conference call. Members who wish to remove any items from the Consent Agenda are requested to contact the MAG office. MAG will host a dinner for the Regional Council members following the meeting/retreat in the MAG Cholla Room on the 2nd floor. Supporting information is enclosed for your review.

Please park in the garage under the Compass Bank Building. Parking places will be reserved for Regional Council members on the first and second levels of the garage. Bring your ticket to the meeting, parking will be validated. For those using transit, the Regional Public Transportation Authority will provide transit tickets for your trip. For those using bicycles, please lock your bicycle in the bike rack in the garage.

Pursuant to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), MAG does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admissions to or participation in its public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Valerie Day at the MAG office. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation. If you have any questions, please call the MAG office.

**MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL
TENTATIVE AGENDA
March 23, 2005**

	<u>COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED</u>
1. <u>Call to Order</u>	
2. <u>Pledge of Allegiance</u>	
3. <u>Call to the Audience</u> An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Regional Council on items not scheduled on the agenda that fall under the jurisdiction of MAG, or on items on the agenda for discussion but not for action. Citizens will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes will be provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Regional Council requests an exception to this limit. Please note that those wishing to comment on agenda items posted for action will be provided the opportunity at the time the item is heard.	3. Information.
4. <u>Executive Director's Report</u> The MAG Executive Director will provide a report to the Regional Council on activities of general interest.	4. Information and discussion.
5. <u>Approval of Consent Agenda</u> Council members may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda. Prior to action on the consent agenda, members of the audience will be provided an opportunity to comment on consent items. Consent items are marked with an asterisk.	5. Approval of the Consent Agenda.

ITEMS PROPOSED FOR CONSENT*

MINUTES

*5A. <u>Approval of the February 23, 2005 Meeting Minutes</u>	5A. Review and approval of the February 23, 2005 meeting minutes.
---	---

TRANSPORTATION ITEMS

*5B. Recommendations to Arizona Department of Transportation for the FTA Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Transportation Program

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) provides approximately \$2.1 million to the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) for capital assistance to agencies and public bodies that provide transportation services for people who are elderly and for people with disabilities. ADOT has again requested that the MAG Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Transportation Ad Hoc Committee (EPDT) rank the Maricopa applications for the FTA Section 5310 funding. The ranking provided by MAG is considered by ADOT in determining which applicants are to be awarded funding. This year, 16 applications for capital assistance awards, totaling 35 van requests and miscellaneous radio requests, were received. The Management Committee recommended forwarding priority listing of applicants to the Arizona Department of Transportation. Please refer to the enclosed material.

*5C. Administrative Adjustment to the FY 2004-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program to Reserve \$1.5 Million of MAG Federal Funds for the 2005 Census Survey and an Amendment to the FY 2005 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to Add \$1.5 Million of MAG Federal Funds for the 2005 Census Survey

In April 2002, the Regional Council approved reserving up to \$6 million of MAG federal funds over a four-year period in order to make payments for the 2005 Census Survey. The initial \$3 million of MAG federal funds were reserved for the Census Survey in FY 2004 and programmed in the FY 2005 Work Program. During FY 2005, MAG paid \$3 million of 2003 FHWA STP funds for the 2005 Census Survey. An additional payment is due for the Census Survey in April 2005. An administrative adjustment to the FY 2004-2007 TIP is requested in order to reserve the MAG federal funds. A

5B. Approval of forwarding the priority listing of applicants for FTA Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Transportation Program to the Arizona Department of Transportation.

5C. Approval of an administrative adjustment to the FY 2004-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and an amendment to the FY 2005 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget by increasing the amount of FHWA STP funds by \$1.5 million for FY 2005 for the 2005 Census Survey.

2005 Work Program amendment is requested in order to make the funds available for the April 2005 Census Survey payment. The Management Committee recommended approval of the adjustment and the amendment. Please refer to the enclosed material.

*5D. Amendment to the FY 2004-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program to Add Two Phoenix Federally Funded Surface Transportation Program Hazard Elimination and Safety (STP-HES) Projects for FY 2005

At the beginning of March, the City of Phoenix was awarded, through the Federal Highway Administration, \$916,970 in Surface Transportation Program Hazard Elimination and Safety (STP-HES) funds for two safety projects to be obligated in FY 2005. The two projects are located at the intersections of Indian School Road at 67th Avenue and McDowell Road at 43rd Avenue and include street lighting, bus bays and paving improvements. These projects are exempt from air quality conformity requirements. To utilize this funding, the City Phoenix is requesting that two projects be included in the FY 2004-2007 TIP for FY 2005. The Management Committee recommended approval of the amendment. This item is on the March 16, 2005 Transportation Policy Committee agenda. An update will be provided on action taken by the committee. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5D. Approval of an amendment to the FY 2004-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program to add safety improvement projects at Indian School Road at 67th Avenue and McDowell Road at 43rd Avenue to FY 2005 utilizing STP-HES funding.

AIR QUALITY ITEMS

*5E. Consultation on Proposed Transportation Conformity Processes for the 2005 MAG Conformity Analyses

On November 2, 2004, MAG distributed for comment the proposed processes to be applied in the upcoming conformity analysis for the FY 2004-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and the Regional Transportation Plan, as amended. Since that time, MAG revalidated the transportation models which has resulted in modifications to the processes. Therefore, MAG is redistributing the proposed processes, including

5E. For consultation.

the modifications, to be used for the conformity analysis for the FY 2004-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and Regional Transportation Plan. These proposed processes also describe the models, associated methods, and assumptions to be used for the conformity analysis for the FY 2006-2010 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and Regional Transportation Plan. Comments regarding this material are requested by March 23, 2005. Please refer to the enclosed material.

*5F. Consultation on Potentially Regionally Significant Projects of the FY 2006-2010 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

Federal and state conformity regulations require Metropolitan Planning Organizations such as MAG to consult with State and local air quality and transportation agencies, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Department of Transportation regarding which transportation projects will be considered "regionally significant" for the purposes of regional emissions analysis. Regionally significant projects are subject to conformity requirements. A list of potentially regionally significant projects from the proposed FY 2006-2010 MAG Transportation Improvement Program has been prepared. It is requested that comments regarding the list be reported to MAG by March 23, 2005. Please refer to the enclosed material.

*5G. Conformity Consultation

The Maricopa Association of Governments is conducting consultation on a conformity assessment for an amendment to the FY 2004-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The proposed amendment includes two City of Phoenix federally-funded safety projects for addition to FY 2005. The amendment includes new projects that are exempt from conformity determinations. Comments on the conformity assessment are requested by March 23, 2005. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5F. For consultation.

5G. For consultation.

GENERAL ITEMS

*5H. Consultant Selection for the MAG Silt Loading Study

The FY 2005 MAG Unified Planning Work Program includes consultant assistance for the MAG Silt Loading Study. A request for proposals was advertised on January 7, 2005 to improve the estimation of particulate emission factors for paved roads in the Maricopa County PM-10 nonattainment area. On February 28, 2005, the evaluation team recommended to MAG that the College of Engineering, Center for Environmental Research and Technology, University of California, Riverside, be selected for an amount not to exceed \$100,000. The Management Committee recommended approval of the selection. Please refer to the enclosed material.

*5I. Preparations for Conducting the 2005 Census Survey

At the February 2005 Regional Council meeting, staff discussed preparations for the upcoming 2005 Census Survey. A 2005 Census Survey Oversight Subcommittee memorandum is enclosed, including census activities to date, especially as they relate to the possible cost increases, publicity and outreach, and recruitment for the 2005 census effort. MAG and member agencies are working together to supply the Census Bureau with revised jurisdiction boundaries and complete address lists in order to control any estimated cost increase for the survey. Please refer to the enclosed material.

*5J. System Activation Fee for the MAG Community Emergency Notification System (CENS)

The MAG Community Emergency Notification System (CENS) rapidly telephones those living or working near the scene of an emergency with information and emergency instructions. One of the CENS policies approved by the Regional Council stated that emergency activation charges would be fully funded through CENS program funds until January 1, 2005 and that the policy

5H. Approval that the College of Engineering, Center for Environmental Research and Technology, University of California, Riverside, be selected to conduct the MAG Silt Loading Study for an amount not to exceed \$100,000.

5I. Information and discussion.

5J. Approval of a policy that an agency activating the CENS system will pay for its activations and that the 911 Office continue to find cost saving measures so the system will be able to provide service for the citizens of the MAG Region.

would be evaluated after the first year of operation. Current funding, received from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, will sustain the CENS program through January 2007. A subgroup of the MAG 911 Oversight Team conducted the evaluation and recommended that an agency activating CENS would pay the cost for its activations effective July 1, 2005 and that the 911 Office continue to find cost saving measures so the system will be able to provide service for the citizens of the MAG Region. The 911 Oversight Team and the Management Committee concurred with the subgroup's recommendations. Please refer to the enclosed material.

*5K. Building a Quality Regional Community: Phase I Report Outline

In June 2004, the MAG Regional Council approved conducting Phase I of Building a Quality Regional Community (BQRC), a study of the existing situation regarding job centers, their commute sheds, and their economic development characteristics. BQRC is contemplated to have three phases, and would provide planning information for use by member agencies. Additional phases of BQRC are contingent upon Regional Council approval pending Phase I results. The project is being developed with the participation of the BQRC Ad Hoc Advisory Group. The Ad Hoc Advisory Group recommended to MAG that the report outline that will guide the research work scope of the project and that Phase I include both Maricopa and Pinal counties, which is the US Census Bureau definition of our metropolitan statistical area. If Pinal County is included, Pinal County and the Central Arizona Association of Governments would provide appropriate information. The Management Committee recommended approval of the report outline. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5K. Approval of the Building a Quality Regional Community Phase I report outline.

ITEMS PROPOSED TO BE HEARD

TRANSPORTATION ITEMS

6. Modifications to the MAG Regional Transportation Plan

As part of the process to develop the MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the period FY 2006-2010, changes have been proposed regarding the phases in which certain projects in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) would be constructed. The proposed phase changes would be accomplished through funding provided by the jurisdictions proposing project advancements. These jurisdictions would be reimbursed for their funding in the phase in which the project was originally scheduled in the RTP. As required by State law, proposed RTP project phase modifications are distributed for agency consultation. The Management Committee recommended inclusion of the modifications for air quality conformity analysis. This item is on the March 16, 2005 Transportation Policy Committee agenda. An update will be provided on action taken by the committee. Please refer to the enclosed material.

7. Interim Draft of the Arterial Life Cycle Program Policies and Procedures

An Interim Draft of the Arterial Life Cycle Program (ALCP) Policies and Procedures has been developed through a series of workshops held with member agencies and other interested parties. The interim draft, revised as appropriate, will be brought through the MAG committee process this month for information and discussion. Depending on comments received, the draft will be brought through the committee process next month for acceptance. The Interim draft will then serve to guide the development of one or more agreements with MAG member agencies for ALCP projects for the upcoming fiscal year. It is anticipated that the review and acceptance process will be repeated later this year for a final draft ALCP Policies and Procedures, developed after some practical experience has been gained

6. Approval of the inclusion of the proposed project phase modifications in the MAG Regional Transportation Plan and in the Draft FY 2006-2010 Transportation Improvement Program, as appropriate, for air quality conformity analysis.

7. Information and discussion.

working with MAG member agencies in applying the Interim Policies and Procedures in developing the initial agreements. This item was on the March agendas for the Management Committee and Transportation Policy Committee. Please refer to the enclosed material.

GENERAL ITEMS

8. Discussion of the Draft FY 2006 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget and Expenditures and Projects in the MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

Each year, the Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget is developed incrementally in conjunction with member agency and public input. The Work Program is reviewed each year by the federal agencies and approved by the Regional Council in May. This presentation and review of the draft FY 2006 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget represents the budget document development to-date. The elements of the budget document are about 80 percent complete. Please refer to the enclosed material.

9. Legislative Update

An update will be provided on legislative issues of interest. Please refer to the enclosed material.

10. Comments from the Council

An opportunity will be provided for Regional Council members to present a brief summary of current events. The Regional Council is not allowed to propose, discuss, deliberate or take action at the meeting on any matter in the summary, unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action.

11. Adjournment of the Regional Council Meeting

8. Information, discussion and input on the development of the Work Program and Annual Budget.

9. Information, discussion and possible action.

10. Information.